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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/020,892	12/19/2001	Tetsuya Tanaka	K6510.0057/P057	8782

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EXAMINER	
DOAN, DUYEN MY	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
09/21/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/020,892	TANAKA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Duyen M. Doan	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *03 July 2007*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-5,7-9 and 13-18* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1,3-5,7-9 and 13-18* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *19 December 2001* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 3/16/06 has been entered. Claims 1,3-5,7-9 are amended for examination. Claims 2,6,10-12 are cancelled. Claims 13-18 are newly added.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 13-18 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection. Claims 1,3-5,7-9 are allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the

> applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 13, 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rosener et al (us 2002/0069299) (hereinafter Rosener).

As regarding claim 13, Rosener discloses the respective terminal devices making synchronization control of operation, and data communication among the respective terminal devices, based on synchronizing signals extracted form signal wirelessly inputted from the outside other than the respective terminal devices (see Rosener pg.2, par 0019-0022, also see figure 1, multiple client devices connected to a wireless network, these client devices synchronize the signal wirelessly from an external server).

As regarding claim 15, the limitations are similar to limitations of claim 13, therefore rejected for the same rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 14, 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rosener et al (us 2002/0069299) (hereinafter Rosener) in view of Rhoads et al (us pat 4,516,035) (hereinafter Rhoads).

As regarding claim 14, Rosener discloses the respective terminal devices making synchronization control of operation, and data communication among the respective terminal devices, based on synchronizing signals inputted from the outside other than the respective terminal devices (see Rosener pg.2, par 0019-0022, also see figure 1, multiple client devices connected to a wireless network, these client devices synchronize the signal wirelessly from an external server).

Rosener does not teach the signals from an a.c. power source.

Rhoads teaches signals inputting from an a.c. power source (see Rhoads col.2, lines 47-53).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Rhoads to the method of Rosener to include the inputting signal is from an a.c. power source for the purpose of prevent the interruption of the power supplies and allow continuous operation o the system (see Rhoads col.1, lines 42-56).

As regarding claim 16, the limitations of claims 16 are similar to limitations of claim 14, therefore rejected for the same rationale as claim 14.

Claims 17 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gamo et al (us pat 6,795,124) (hereinafter Gamo) in view of Rosener et al (us 2002/0069299) (hereinafter Rosener).

As regarding claim 17, Gamo teaches synchronizing signal generating means for generating synchronizing signals (see Gamo col.6, lines 16-19, v counter generates an internal vertical synchronizing signal), a control means for making synchronization control operations and data communication based on the synchronizing signals (see Gamo col.6, lines 9-35).

Gamo does not teach the signals wirelessly inputted from the outside other than the terminal device.

Rosener teaches a synchronizing method for client device connected to a wireless network, and synchronize the signal wirelessly from an external server (see Rosener figure 1).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the concept of wirelessly synchronize the signal from an external source to Gamo's invention for the purpose of maintain functionality and accuracy of the device.

Claims 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gamo et al (us pat 6,795,124) (hereinafter Gamo) in view of Rhoads et al (us pat 4,516,035) (hereinafter Rhoads).

As regarding claim 18, Gamo teaches synchronizing signal generating means for generating synchronizing signals (see Gamo col.6, lines 16-19, v counter generates an internal vertical synchronizing signal), a control means for making synchronization control operations and data communication based on the synchronizing signals (see Gamo col.6, lines 9-35).

Gamo does not teach the signals are from the a.c. power source.

Rhoads teaches signals inputting from an a.c. power source (see Rhoads col.2, lines 47-53).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Rhoads to the method of Rosener to include the inputting signal is from an a.c. power source for the purpose of prevent the interruption of the power supplies and allow continuous operation o the system (see Rhoads col.1, lines 42-56).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1,3-5,7-9 allowed.

Examiner's Note:

Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

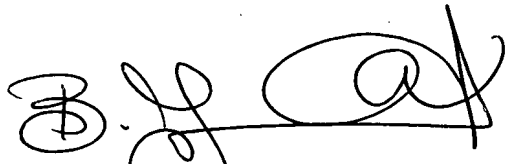
In the case of amending the claimed invention, Applicant is respectfully requested to indicate the portion(s) of the specification which dictate(s) the structure relied on for proper interpretation and also to verify and ascertain the metes and bounds of the claimed invention.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duyen M. Doan whose telephone number is (571) 272-4226. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30am-6:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Examiner
Duyen Doan
9/10/2007



BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
9/17/7